

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

A WORD FROM PT

I understand why some people are turned off by theology and doctrine. People often say to me, “I am a spiritual person too. I believe in God. I have experienced Him. But I experience Him in nature and in my own personal ways. Frankly, organized religion with all its dogmas and strictures isn’t what I experienced. I just don’t need all that.”

There is a sense in which such an objection makes sense and even bears true witness. When a person turns from an experience of the Divine to the Christian Creeds, they are indeed turning from something real to something less real. We can picture this in what

happens when a person looks out over the ocean, and then goes and looks at a map of the Atlantic. He is turning from something real to something less real. He goes from the wind and the waves to a sheet of colored paper.

But it is just here that you begin to see the importance of the map. The map is just a colored sheet, but it has two advantages over one person looking out over the sea. The map has been developed by thousands of sailors who have sailed the seas. Their experiences are also real, but collectively the map encompasses all those experiences, so that it gives a more complete understanding. And secondly,

having a good map will be crucial if you want to get to some place on the shores of the Atlantic.

As long as we are content with walking along a beach and peering out at the ocean, our experiences will be more fun than looking a map. But if you want to get somewhere, you will quickly discover the advantage of having a good map.

Of course, we might not want to be getting somewhere. But God may wish otherwise for us... *(free and loose paraphrase of an argument made by C.S. Lewis in Mere Christianity)*

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What is meant by the term “liturgy”?

(from the Greek, “work of the people” or “public service”): more than a set form of service or one particular service, the liturgy is the whole body of texts and music used for the worship

of God. The Lutheran Book of Worship is the liturgy of many Lutheran churches in North America. *(from “Manual on the Liturgy” companion to the LBW, from Augsburg Pub.)*

Our Lutheran liturgy involves the participation of all who are gathered: clergy, worship assistants, and

laity. Worship is not a spectator sport. We have been gathered by God to receive from Him. And so in reverence, we give thanks by offering praise and thanksgiving to our Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Liturgical worship helps us all share in this.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 9/13

9am Winkel Gathering at Immanuel Lutheran in Adams Friendship

Thursday, 9/15

9:30am Prayer Gathering
10am LCMC Ministerium at Olivet Lutheran

Friday, 9/16

7am Men’s Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 9/18 15th Sunday a Pentecost

8am Choir Practice
9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Fellowship

KEY ATTRIBUTES OF LCMC & NALC

- Christ-Centered
- Mission-Driven
- Traditionally-Grounded
- Congregationally-Focused

LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

NALC (North American Lutheran Church) (www.thenalc.org)

THIS AND THAT...

Winkel is the strange name the Missouri Synod gives to the Pastors gathering in the local circuit on the second Tuesday of most months. The gathering is for worship, study, and planning.

Choir Practice will start up again this Sunday morning at 8am sharp. This allows for a good 40 minutes or so before the Divine Service.

The **Prayer Gathering** (all are welcome to join us) will try meeting at a new time this

fall, on Thursdays at 9:30am. Each member of the congregation will be prayed for. We will also gladly take your prayer requests. Call Mary Bartos (608.385.5660).

The continued **livestreaming** is for those who cannot otherwise attend in person! It is a good outreach tool and a way for shut-ins to connect.

Don't forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Basket!

The Betlachs are scheduled to clean the church the week of September 18. And the Duesenbergs will clean the week of October 16.

The September **Designated Benevolence** is for Lutherans for Life.

We are called to be Christ's witnesses. Our lives and speech are always bearing witness to something. The question is whether it is giving witness to our Lord...

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Eph 2:8

HUMOR DEPARTMENT

Celebrations

Birthdays

Sept 9..... Anne Warner
 Sept 10..... Carol Halderson
 Sept 10..... Hannah Scholze
 Sept 15..... Butch Fisher
 Sept 21..... Debera Uy
 Sept 30..... Cheryl Ruud

Anniversaries

Sept 8..... J & D Uy
 Sept 18..... J & H Roll

Flight Humor

Never let it be said that ground crews lack a sense of humor. Check these maintenance complaint forms filled out by pilots and signed by the maintenance crew...

P: IFF inoperative.
 M: IFF always inoperative in OFF mode.
 P: Suspected crack in windshield.

M: Suspect you're right.

P: Number 3 engine missing..
 M: Engine found on right wing after brief search.

P: Aircraft handles funny. (I love this one!).
 M: Aircraft warned to straighten up, fly right, and be serious.

P: Target radar hums.
 M: Reprogrammed target radar with lyrics.

P: Mouse in cockpit.
 M: Cat installed.

And the best one for last...

P: Noise coming from under instrument panel. Sounds lie a midget pounding on something with a hammer.
 M: Took hammer away from midget.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

9/18 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg

Reader: Naomi Rislow

Crucifer: Jed Roll

Acolyte: Stella Roll

Ushers: Jeremy Schoonover

Counters: Dan M/Naomi R

Comm Asst: Connie Meunier

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: Heidi T/Karri B

Livestreamer: Cole Warner

9/25 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover

Reader: Jeremy Schoonover

Crucifer: Drew Staff

Acolyte: Elyse Schoonover

Ushers: Dan Molstad

Counters: Jeremy S/Connie M

Comm Asst: Jessica Schoonover

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: Cyndi Molstad

Livestreamer: Mike Meunier

10/2 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: tbd

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: tbd

Comm Asst: tbd

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: tbd

10/9 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: tbd

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: tbd

Comm Asst: tbd

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: tbd

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
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Services held at 9am at:
 642 Western Avenue
 A block north and then
 a block west of King Furniture